

IN THE DRAWINGS

In Fig. 11, please insert "PRIOR ART".

### REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 3, 2005. Claims 1-13 are presented for examination. Claims 1-10 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. New Claim 13 has been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. Claims 1, 2, 9 and 10 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The abstract was objected to for the reasons given in the Office Action. The abstract has been carefully reviewed and amended as deemed necessary to overcome this objection, and thus withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The Office Action required that Fig. 11 be labeled "PRIOR ART". Attached hereto is a replacement sheet that includes Fig. 11 in which the label "PRIOR ART" has been inserted, as proposed in the Office Action. Entry of that replacement sheet is respectfully requested, as is withdrawal of any objection to Fig. 11.

Claims 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000-195449 (*Kawase*). Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kawase*.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the concave portion has conductivity, and Claim 2 has been amended to clarify that the surface of the curved shape has conductivity. Claim 9 has been amended to clarify that, in the recited structure, a portion deformed by a lower pressure in an internal space between the first and second

substrates than a pressure of an external atmosphere and a portion brought into direct or indirect contact with the electrode are formed by bending one metal plate member.

The English abstract of *Kawase*, of record, states, in part:

“A terminal (102) of withdrawing a wiring (100) is extended and inserted through the hole (103) of rear side of flat surface board (1) which is provided in vacuum housing (4). A displaceable cantilever spring (105) is provided inside the vacuum housing.”

Applicant submits that nothing in *Kawase* (or its English abstract) would teach or suggest the above-recited features of Claims 1, 2, and 9 of the present application. Indeed, such features would not be needed in *Kawase*, since an introducing terminal (101) having conductivity already is employed.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, and 9 are each deemed clearly patentable over *Kawase* (and its English abstract), and thus withdrawal of the rejections of those claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 will now be addressed. As amended, Claim 10 recites:

“10. An airtight container comprising:  
a first substrate on which an electrode is disposed;  
a second substrate which is opposite to a surface of the first substrate on which the electrode is disposed; and  
a structure which is bonded to the second substrate, and brought into direct or indirect contact with the electrode to supply a potential to the electrode,  
wherein the structure is bonded to a surface, of the second substrate, opposite the first substrate, and the structure has a concave portion which is opened at a through-hole, to an external atmosphere to an internal space formed between the first and second substrates and closed at a bottom of the concave portion, and a portion bonded to the second substrate and having a first surface and a second surface opposite to said first

surface, said first surface being a surface to be bonded to said second substrate, said second surface being exposed to the external atmosphere.” (Emphasis added).

The recitations of Claim 10 are supported at least by FIGS. 5, 6, 9 and 10 of the present application. According to an aspect of the invention to which Claim 10 relates, a structure is bonded to a surface (e.g., an inner surface) of the second substrate which is opposite to the first substrate. A portion of the structure to be bonded has a first surface for being bonded and a second surface opposite to the first surface. The second surface is exposed to an external atmosphere.

The teachings of the *Kawase* English abstract were referred to above. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in *Kawase* (or its English abstract) would teach or suggest the above-underlined features of Claim 10. Accordingly, Claim 10 is deemed clearly patentable over *Kawase* (and its English abstract), and thus withdrawal of the rejection of that claim is respectfully requested.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

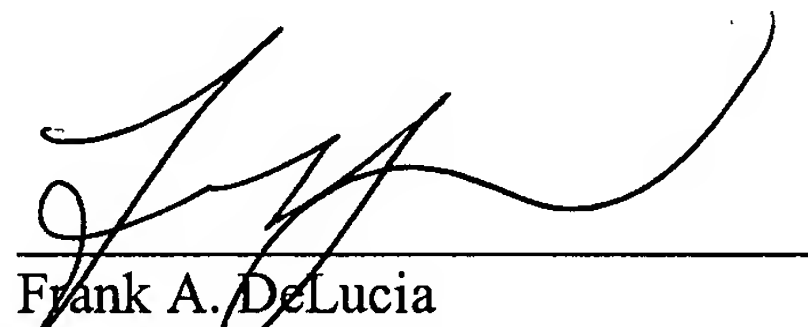
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of

the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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